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later, by President Cleveland's appointment, a United States Civil Service Commissioner at Washington, and is now a New York State Civil Service Commissioner. He was associated with Mr. Cleveland from 1882 onward, and was always an esteemed and devoted friend.

Inquiries concerning the requests and suggestions made in this letter may be addressed to Mr. Rice at his residence, 135 Washington Avenue, Albany, or at the Capitol, Albany.

I am, very truly yours,

FRANCES F. CLEVELAND PRESTON.

Year Book of the State of Indiana for the year 1917. Compiled and published under the direction of JAMES P. GOODRICH, Governor. Indianapolis, 1918, pp. 883.

"The *Indiana Year Book* provided for by the legislature of 1917, and herewith presented, is the first attempt of this State to give to the people in simplified and brief form a report of the operation of the various offices, departments and institutions, together with such documents, facts and statistics as make up a general reference work for the State."

Of late the publication of the reports of the various State officers has come to be a serious financial burden. Moreover, no one cared to have his private library monopolized with the twenty to seventy volumes of annual and biennial reports. It is the purpose of the governor to give the people a simplified yet complete report of the State governmental business in a handy single volume. The movement is altogether commendable. The volume is well edited, well printed, on good paper and substantially bound. Such a volume can scarcely be reviewed. It is a political encyclopedia of the State and is without doubt the most valuable State publication so far issued by the State.

Reconstruction in Louisiana after 1868. By ELLA LONN, Ph.D., Assistant Professor in Grinnell College. G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1918. Pp. vi, 538, \$3.00.

The field covered by Dr. Lonn's book is one of great difficulty. The partisan bitterness aroused by the struggle is still in the atmosphere. The documents on which the history must rest are all full of partisanship. The author has rightly preserved in her story enough of the contemporary expression to

give the reader a sense of this characteristic period. The story is told with commendable reserve and impartiality. There is ample evidence that the sources have been used liberally. There has been a tendency in the last decade by writers on Reconstruction to condemn without reserve the carpet-bag government. It seems that the mantle of charity which is used so freely might be used with more impartiality in this regard.

Sweeping generalizations in history are easily made. Except mere physical description they constitute the cheapest filler for the historian and likewise cause the most trouble. From this moralizing Dr. Lonn has wisely refrained. Barring a few typographical errors and lapses of the pen, the volume contains little for adverse criticism. On the other hand, the author is entitled to great praise for a patient investigation of a difficult subject. Dr. Lonn is a native of Indiana, her home being at Laporte.

L. E.

The current number (4) completes the first volume of the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine*. The current number is taken up almost entirely with a history of Allegheny, by Charles W. Dahlinger. The story begins with 1783 and closes with 1906, when Allegheny was consolidated with Pittsburg.